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(WASHINGTON, DC) -- Late last night, Congressman Russ Carnahan (MO-3) voted to pass H.R. 3074, the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies appropriations bill of 2008. The bill includes a provision to preserve the Rural Housing and Economic Development program.

"The President's budget recklessly proposed to eliminate the Rural Housing and Economic Development program," Carnahan said. "Today, this Democratic-led Congress has stood up for the people that most need our support by rejecting the President's ill-advised proposal."

Instead of eliminating the Rural Housing and Economic Development program, H.R. 3074 provides \$16.8 million in funding, the same funding level as in 2007. The Rural Housing and Economic Development program is designed to revitalize economically depressed rural communities.